GRAD·NEWSLETTER

October 1979

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CONGRATULATIONS!

It's a boy! And a girl! As of August, 1979, the members of the Graduate Students' Association have become the proud foster parents of two children.

The girl is Julia Arancibia of Bolivia. She is six years old, a student in the first grade. Her father is a farmer. Her mother works at home taking care of Julia and her baby brother, Pedro.

Egberto Rivera lives in Ecuador. Nine year old Egberto is a student in the fourth grade. His father is a carpenter. His mother stays at home, providing for the needs of Egberto and his two sisters.

The G.S.A. Council deems this a worthwhile cause. Your contribution to the Graduate Students' Association has brought a sense of hope, and of love, to two needy children and their families. We encourage you, individually, to sponsor foster children, if at all possible.

We will keep you up to date on the progress of <u>your</u> children in South America.

PARTY

The G.S.A. will soon be holding its Mid-Term Party. There will be dancing, refreshments and an all-around good time. Beer will be sold three for a dollar. Bring your I.D. and a guest.

Date: Friday, November 9, 1979
Time: 8:00 p.m.
Place: H-651

ATTENTION ENGINEERING GRADUATE STUDENTS!

We are pleased to announce that the G.S.A. is going to purchase an IBM typewriter for engineering grads to use to type their theses. The money for this typewriter comes out the the G.S.A. engineering budget for this year.

Top priority for use of this machine will be the typing of theses. Please note that it is not for typing lessons.

Contact Mr. Omprakash Sharma, the G.S.A. Engineering Representative at 879-7234 for more information and to reserve time on the typewriter.

G.S.A. POLICY FOR THOSE PARTICIPATING IN CONFERENCES

Limited funds are available to offset the cost of trips by those graduate students presenting papers related to their fields of study. Please apply in writing at least one month prior to the presentation of your paper, and be as detailed as possible.

SCIENCE & ENGINEERING CHRISTMAS PARTY

There will be a Christmas Party for all Science and Engineering graduate students and their guests.

Date: December 21, 1979
Time: 8:00 p.m.
Place: H-651

INCREASE IN T.A. SALARIES

After lengthy negotiations with Rector O'Brien and Vice-Rectors Breen and Bordan, the G.S.A. Council has been able to obtain a substantial increase in T.A. salaries, ranging from 6-8 per cent from department to department.

HAVING HASSLES?

If you are, perhaps we can help you? We are not making any promises, but if we can help you to find your way through university red tape, we will do our best. All you need to do is ask. Drop us a line or give us a call.

GUEST SPEAKER SERIES

GENERAL INTEREST SERIES

CLAUDE RYAN

Mr. Claude Ryan, Leader of the Quebec Liberal Party, and Opposition Leader in the Quebec National Assembly, has accepted our invitation to speak to the members of the Graduate Students' Association and the Concordia community. Watch for posters publicising the event.

Date: Wednesday, January 23, 1980
Time: 2:00 p.m.
Place: H-110

ACADEMIC SERIES

DR. SARAN NARANG

Dr. Saran Narang is the Senior Research Officer of the National Research Council and Adjunct Professor at the University of Ottawa. He is a foremost authority in genetics and author of several articles in various scientific journals. He has been carrying out highly academic research in the field of cloning of synthetic genes. He is a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada.

Topic: Cloning of Synthetic Genes
Date: Friday, November 16, 1979
Time: 2:15 p.m.
Place: H-1070

The G.S.A. has been in contact with Mr. Joe Clark, Prime Minister of Canada, and former Prime Minister, Pierre Trudeau. Other potential guest speakers include Carl Sagan and Edward Broadbent.

EDITORIAL

The public affairs program, W5, aired on the CTV network, Sunday, September 30, 1979, misled the Canadian public into believing that foreign students are stealing the places of Canadian students in Canadian universities. The program reported that there are 55,000 foreign students and an equal number of students who are immigrants. Then W5 informed the public that there are about 100,000 foreign students in Canadian universities. It seems that the researchers who worked on this report do not know that landed immigrants have the same rights to education as Canadians.

By taking TV cameras into classrooms, the program confused the public into thinking that students who have ethnic features are foreign students, though these students may be immigrants or Canadian-born. The statistics used by the researchers included students who are immigrants or Canadian-born, and then reported that 10-20 per cent of Canadian universities' population was made up of foreign students. The actual national average is 5.3 per cent.

The program failed to report that foreign students in seven of the provinces pay 3-4 times the fees paid by Canadians (at Concordia graduate students pay 5 times more than Canadians), and that many universities have restrictions on the number of foreign students in certain programs. For example, there are virtually no foreign students enrolled in Medicine at the University of Toronto, except those sponsored by CIDA (Canadian International Development Agencies).

Thus, due to the lack of statistical background, and by blowing a bit of information out of all proportion, the W5 program turned out to be a racist attack on International students.

The Network, after receiving numerous protest calls, was to air a follow-up report taking another look at foreign students. However, we were dismayed to learn on the October 14 broadcast of W5, that they are standing by the findings of their first report. They will have to bear the responsibility for stirring up this controversy, and not clearing up the confusion caused by their false information.

G.S.A. TO HELP GRADUATE STUDENTS SEEKING EMPLOYMENT

The G.S.A. is in the process of preparing a booklet listing the graduate students in Division III (Biology, Bio-Phys. Ed., Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics), who are in search of employment. This booklet will be distributed to private enterprises, as well as to government agencies. Those graduate students who are interested in having their names included should send a brief discription (not more than 100 words) of their qualifications, work experience and other related information to the following address:

Rajender Sipehia
Science Representative
Graduate Students' Association
Concordia University
2160 Bishop, #105
Montreal, Quebec
H3G 2E9

This project is supported by funds allotted to Division III.